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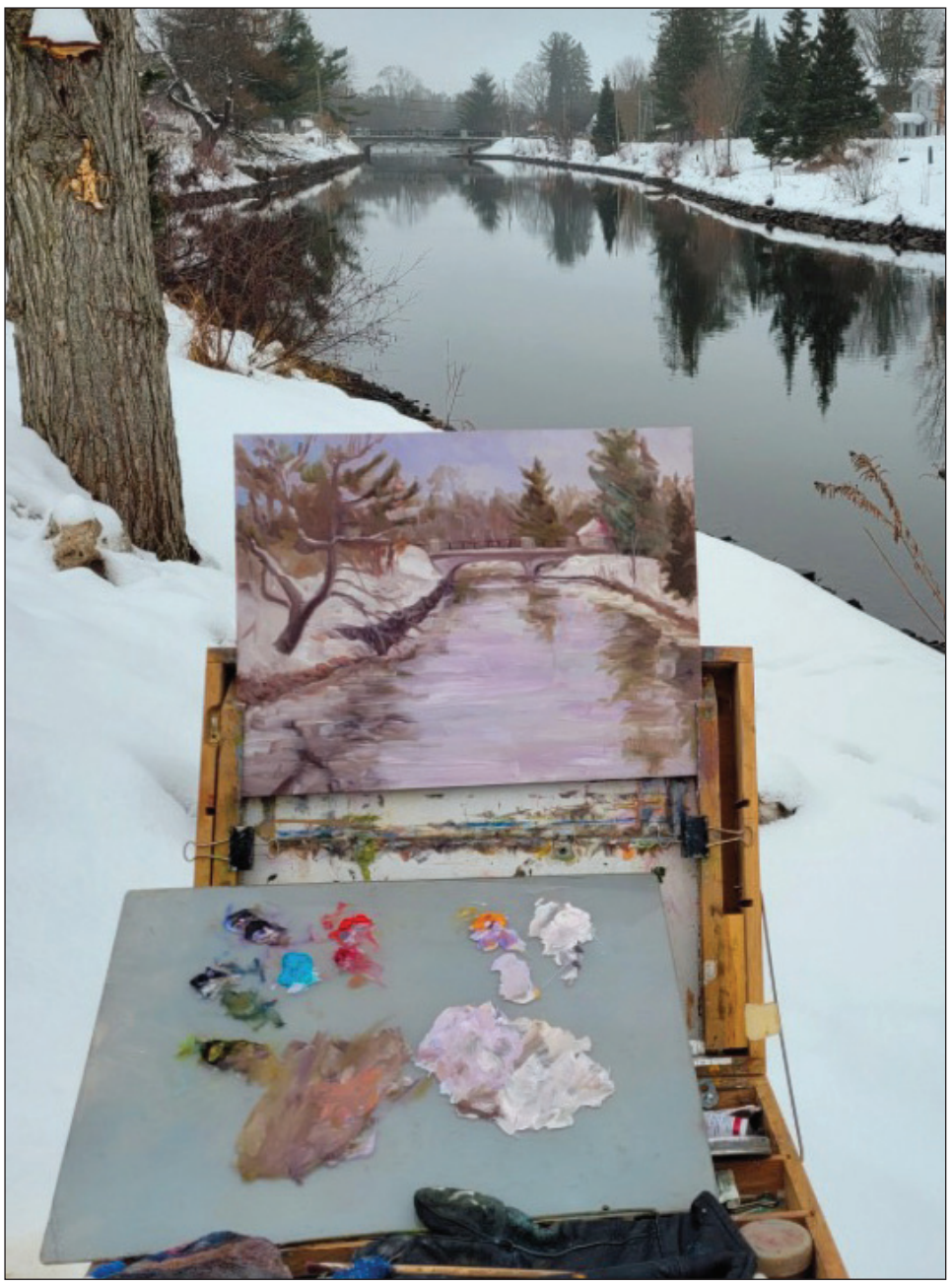

Setting the scene

A frosty afternoon was spent painting the Gull River. /Photo by Harvey Walker

Urban, rural centres clash

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Times Staff

A growing lack of affordability is chief among a handful of universal complaints.

There are days it seems as if it costs you $40 just to leave the house. Go to any grocery store and you spend more money for fewer less-stuffed bags.

If it's become more difficult the world over to stretch a post-pandemic dollar, try stretching a coin. Such is the plight of the beleaguered taxpayer.

Beleaguered.

That's what many people who weren't exactly so before have lately become. At least yours is a household and not a municipality of more people with more needs and varied concerns.

And such is the plight of Minden Hills Mayor Bob Carter, his council, and township staff. It's one shared by many rural communities.

Provincial money to municipalities has dwindled over the last number of years, Carter said. That's also been the case with federal funding, but to a lesser extent.

Municipalities and smaller townships have been put in a position in which the tax base is increasingly pressed upon to cover costs of infrastructure needs.

"All of the towns in Ontario have the same issue that the infrastructure tends to get older and older," he said. "You're on the hook for that."

Every bridge and every stretch of asphalt has to be serviced or replaced at some point. That work is expensive, the costs of labour and materials continually rise.

"They have increased in price far faster than the regular inflation," Carter said. "The realization of that has become more and more of a challenge over the last couple of years."

A lot of people who live and work in the bigger cities have no idea what it's like to make a life in a rural place. Queen's Park is in Toronto and that's where decisions are made regarding rules to planning and development. That includes policy to stimulate housing construction.

But what may be a minor decision within Hogtown's comfortable confines is often more complicated when applied to rural matters.

Carter said smaller townships end up having more responsibilities with less money to make the ends meet because the province changed some rules. That could be mean more public consultations and other processes and procedures. It's trying to hammer and stretch a loonie a little farther.

"It's all things that increase our costs," he said.

That illustrates a phenomenon Carter has often referred to as "phantom downloads." As the provincial government washes its hands of responsibilities that had been administered by specific departments, those responsibilities are rolled downhill to counties and municipalities.

And that's more work, either by way of hiring outside consultants or paying staff, for which the township is on the hook.

"When you're dealing at the macro level, everybody likes to live on averages," Carter said. "The average town should have this or that. Well, we're not average."

The median age in Ontario as a whole is 44 years old. In Minden Hills, it is 60 years old. Those are age groups that require different services.

"We have a different environment," he said.

Minden Hills and many other rural centres are less diverse, are of an older population, and that population could swell and wane with the seasons. Try getting high speed

see CITY page 2

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Minden urgent care clinic makes a shift

by **EMILY STONEHOUSE**
Times Staff

To launch the new year, the Kawartha North Family Health Team announced a change in hours that would impact Minden residents and those in surrounding areas. "We are adding new services in Minden to serve you better," shared a Facebook post, made on Jan. 2, "so our hours in Minden will shift to Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for urgent care and new services in the afternoon."

The post clarified that urgent care walk-in services will be available the remaining days of the week and weekend, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. each day.

The post was met with a series of questions and concerns from active Facebook users, wary about what this means for the community. While some are questioning what these new services may be, others are using the altered hours as a platform to continue their advocacy for re-opening the Minden emergency room, which closed in June, 2023.

The urgent care clinic has been up and running in the former hospital for over a year, and services individuals with non-life threatening injuries and medical concerns.

In light of the queries around the Jan. 3 offerings, Marina Hodson, the executive director of the Kawartha North Family Health Team, was able to provide some answers. "Our primary goal is to reduce unnecessary wait times, and after reviewing patient data, we've identified areas where we can make meaningful improvements," she said. "For example, patients requiring follow-up appointments will now be scheduled separately, reducing the need for them to wait in line a second time."

Wait times around the clinic are a commonly discussed topic on social media platforms. Many reach out to the online world to inquire about the best location to access care in a timely manner, and while the public forums aren't always reliable, they offer some insight into the challenges surrounding the healthcare system.

Hodson hopes that by streamlining primary care services, it will allow for the urgent care pathways to remain focused on immediate needs. "We've noticed that some patients are seeking care for non-urgent issues, which can contribute to longer wait times for others," she said. "To address this, we're implementing changes that will help prioritize urgent cases while providing more efficient care for all."

Hodson assured the community that healthcare will still be readily available for those in need, and she and her team are using the altered hours experimentally in an attempt to pinpoint the specific needs that arise from a local audience. "We are committed to meeting the needs of our community, and improving the healthcare experience for everyone," she said. "We trust that the community will be patient as we continue to refine our system and work towards providing the best care possible with the resources available.

City decisions miss rural realities: mayor

from page 1

internet in rural Ontario.

Before the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation lends money to build housing, Carter said one of the criteria considered is the development's proximity to public transportation and other civic services.

"If you got a situation where you don't have those civic services, we obviously don't have the public transportation, we start answering no to a bunch of questions," Carter said. "That gets us disqualified before we can even get started."

Consider Highway 60. Pots of federal and provincial money is available for different purposes north of the highway than what communities can avail of south of it.

It's a different Ontario than it was, and the basis for funding decisions should reflect that change. Carter suggests rural and urban characteristics should have bearing.

"The area around Sudbury and North Bay is no more rural than it is around Haliburton," he said. "We don't have the access to the things that the big cities do."

There's a Rural Ontario Municipal Association conference coming up. That's one of the few opportunities when small-town councils can draw government's ear from the larger centres where there are more voters.

"The Conservatives tend to be stronger in rural areas," Carter said. "So you end up with a lot of people in the government who are former mayors and things like that. But there are a lot of people who are from the big cities. They just don't get it. They haven't lived it."

Haliburton County is one of the province's desired cottage respites. While the seasonal residents in cottages contribute much, most of them have not seen a Tuesday in February, Carter said.

"It's different that time of the year," the mayor said. "Many of the problems that certain people see, they only see during the cottage season or on the odd weekend that they might come up here in the off-season. But we have to keep the town running 365 days of the year."

Sanding roads and clearing snow happens in the off-season. Repairing infrastructure is needed your-round, he said.

Carter wonders how urban decision-makers imagine what rural areas will look in a decade. Densification in villages and hamlets would entail such things as six-storey buildings in area where they haven't been seen before.

"What do you want us to look like?" he said. "I think we have to recognize well over two-thirds of our tax base comes from cottagers."

Cottagers are drawn to the region by lakes and streams and unfettered stands of trees under a blue sky or a raining sky. Without protection of the natural landscape, less alure means less demand for people to experience Minden Hills, he said.

It's the same way for the other townships in the Haliburton County fold.

"Growth means that there's more demand on services," Carter said. "But then there's also things like water treatment and waste management which are really expensive."

And those investments have to last decades.

Those Other movies
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Finding their footing

Laurie Marks-O'Sullivan and her granddaughter, Hazel, check out the ice during a public skate at S.G. Nesbitt Arena in Minden over the winter break. /photo submitted

Rhea Ziorjen finds her footing during public skating in Minden.

UFO Group soars into New Year

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Editor

A craft submitted by a member of the UFO Craft Group. /Submitted

A Christmas tree craft made by pins and trinkets from Mary Trepanier's mother and grandmother.

The UnFinished Object (UFO) Craft Group was started by Shannon Quigley, past cultural programming assistant. Under Quigley's guidance, the group was shown new techniques and skills, such as how to attach fasteners to fabric. The group became popular, but had to cease its meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

After restrictions were lifted, Mary Trepanier and others reached out to Robert Wong, cultural program coordinator to see if the group could begin meeting again. Wong welcomed the group back with open arms. Trepanier is also a member of Knitting for Warmth, a group of knitters that have created 2,936 blankets out of around 99,000 knitted squares.

The UFO Craft group is a group of like-minded individuals with a love of crafting, run by crafters.

Members of the UFO Craft group are from throughout Haliburton County and the surrounding areas. One member, who is a seasonal resident, often makes the trek from Oshawa to meet regularly with her fellow crafters.

A very casual group, Trepanier says that their meetings are accompanied by a selection of tea, coffee, and cookies to share.

While a casual affair, Trepanier says that the group fosters an excellent environment in which you can learn the best sources of crafting supplies, new techniques, and methods. Each crafter has their own unique style that they bring to the group. Every week, members are encouraged to bring finished and unfinished projects to show off to each other. Through this show and tell, Trepanier says that it fuels the members' creativity.

Trepanier also runs their Facebook group UFO Craft Group Minden, Ontario. This Facebook group has allowed Trepanier and other members to share their projects virtually. With the occasional winter conditions, Trepanier finds that having a social connection through Facebook allows its members to remain in contact and share interesting projects with each other. The group encourages anyone and everyone that is interested to join their Facebook group and share photos of your own crafting creations.

When the UFO group first started, they met once a month. By overwhelming demand, the group changed their meeting schedule to once every two weeks.

"You can get out for the day and be creative," said Trepanier.

The act of crafting or repetitive actions like knitting is calming and has the ability to change people's outlooks on life. Crafting methods like knitting allows people to create things from nothing, a very positive and powerful feeling, says Trepanier.

"You get to do something without being distracted," said Trepanier.

In addition to creative endeavours, the UFO group has been skilled in creating and mending clothing. Successful projects have included repairing the seam of a sweater, mending a hole in a hat, and showing someone how to turn the heel of a sock.

"The UFO was a real highlight of my time in Minden," said Quigley. "I'd love to see a group like it where I am now in Waterloo. It's great to meet with people regularly to share ideas and support each other."

The UFO group offers socialization and encourages each member to pursue creative interests. After visiting the group, members find that they strive to create more and more. Members share their individual and unique knowledge with each other, allowing them to grow as individuals.

"Crafting and art is ageless," said Trepanier.

The UFO Craft Group meets in the Welch Room at the Minden Hills Community Centre. The group will be meeting Jan. 3 and 17, Feb. 7 and 21, March 7 and 21, April 4 and 25, May 9 and 23, June 6 and 20. Personal supplies must be brought.

For those wanting to join the UFO group, Trepanier asks for people to bring their projects and be ready to craft and create.

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COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and with electronic participation. Meetings begin at 9:00 am unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

- **January 9 - Regular Council Meeting**
- **January 14 - Special Meeting**
- **January 16 - Special Meeting**
- **January 30 – Regular Council Meeting**

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal.

RECREATION AND ACTIVITIES

The Minden Hills Community Services Department has a new schedule for drop-in programming. Check it out online or at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena.

AGNES JAMIESON GALLERY

Artwork from the permanent collection, featuring André Lapine (1866-1952), as well as new acquisitions, are now on display in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation. For more info: 705-286-3763 or culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca.

NOTICE: PUBLIC MEETING - PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE TOWNSHIP'S FEES AND CHARGES BY-LAW

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, January 30, 2025 during its Regular Council Meeting regarding Proposed changes to the Township's Fees and Charges By-law.
The meeting will commence at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON. Detailed information to follow the week of January 12, 2025.
Dated this 2nd day of January 2025.
If you have any questions, please contact:
Vicki Bull, Clerk
(705) 286-1260 Ext 515
vbull@mindenhills.ca

NOTICE OF BUDGET DELIBERATIONS AND ADOPTIONS 2025

TAKE NOTICE that the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will commence 2025 Budget deliberations at multiple upcoming Special Meetings of Council.

1. Tuesday, January 14, 2025: Operating and Capital Budget review for the Fire Department; Public Works Department; Water and Wastewater; and Administration.
2. Thursday, January 16, 2025: Operating and Capital Budget review for the Community Services Department; Planning Department; and Building Department.
3. Tuesday, February 4, 2025: Adopt and Finalize the 2025 Budget.

Adoption of the Water and Wastewater rates will be considered at the January 14, 2025 meeting. Please note that dates are subject to change and are dependent on deliberation and direction. For complete details, visit our website.

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Scan the QR code or visit
www.surveymonkey.com/r/MindenHillsSurvey

2. Participate in a **Town Hall Session**
- **Wednesday, January 29th at 6:30 PM**
In-Person (SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena - Community Rooms 1 & 2, 55 Parkside St.)
- **Thursday, January 30 @ 7 PM online**
Email lfitton@mindenhills.ca to register

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Trudeau resigns as Liberal Party leader

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Times Staff

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has heeded party pressure and will throw in the towel.

Canada's prime minister for about the last decade decided to resign the Liberal arty's leadership and will vacate the country's top office when a new leader is chosen.

Trudeau made the announcement Jan. 6 in Ottawa.

"Every bone in my body has always told me to fight because I care deeply about Canadians," he said when he told Canadians about his decision. "I care deeply about this country. And I will always be motivated by what is in the best interest of Canadians.

"The fact is, despite best efforts to work through it, parliament has been paralysed for months after what has been the longest session of a minority parliament in Canadian history."

Parliamentary business has been suspended, or prorogued, until March 24.

The scuttlebutt around the National Capital Region is that the Liberal Party brass has been planning to meet as soon as possible to get the wheels in motion toward the new leader's selection. According to the *BBC*, among those mentioned as possibilities for the role are former deputy prime minister Chrystia Freeland, former Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney, Transport Minister Anita Anand, and Foreign Affairs Minister Melanie Joly.

Another name from outside the federal fold is Christy Clark, the former premier of British Columbia.

Trudeau's announcement followed weeks of pressure from various provincial caucuses for his resignation. Of course, those internal voices became the cadence to the chorus from Canadians that badgered and harassed the prime minister at many stops across Canada.

But the prime minister seemingly ignored the rumblings and grumblings from the public. Much of the public's discontent was sowed during and following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Past practice for political parties is to set aside months for leadership hopefuls to engage the membership in a campaign. But that won't likely be the case for the Liberals this time around.

According to *CBC* coverage, the party's national board will meet in the coming days to choose Trudeau's replacement. That will likely lead into the writ soon being dropped to kick off the next federal election, which isn't slated to happen until October.

While nobody has officially hit the hustings just yet, leaders of the county's other two main political camps have begun to state their cases for the electorate's nod at the ballot box.

As the Liberals held a slim 17-seat majority among the 338-member parliament, their efforts in the House were largely buoyed by support from the New Democratic Party.

That changed pretty much as Trudeau was announcing his resignation. NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh said the Liberals don't deserve another shot at governing and that he will vote to turf the Trudeau government in a confidence vote following prorogation.

And the Conservative Party, the country's Official Opposition, has been riding high in the favour of many voters.

According to an Angus Reid public opinion poll released Dec. 20, the Liberals were at an all-time low in popularity at 16 per cent of those surveyed. Trudeau himself garnered a 22 per cent approval from those polled.

The Conservatives have commanded the highest popularity among voters asked during many independent polls since September.

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Ildiko and Milania Sutcliffe were born at home early on New Year's Day. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

Twins arrive on New Year's Day

by EMILY STONEHOUSE
Times Staff

It was a New Year's Day unlike any other for Ilona and Brandon Sutcliffe, when the Wilberforce-based couple welcomed not only their second child, but their third as well.

"Twins don't run in either family," said Brandon, "so this was a surprise for everyone."

At 36.5 weeks pregnant, Ilona delivered fraternal twin girls on the morning of Jan. 1, at their cozy home in Highlands East. Ildiko was born first, with Milania following suit two hours later. Both girls weighed in at just over five pounds after a fast labour on the first day of the year.

"We knew we wanted a home birth," said Ilona, noting that she had a very positive experience with their first daughter, Ava, two years ago. "I like to take a natural approach to life."

But while it was their preference to deliver the twins at home with the assistance of the Haliburton Midwives for support, Ilona noted that they would not have had time to drive to the hospital if they wanted to. "It all happened so fast," she laughed, "I would have been delivering them on the side of the road."

While the twins weren't due to arrive for another few weeks, the early and quick delivery makes the girls the first recorded babies of 2025 born in Haliburton County according to the midwives.

While they arrived early, both girls are healthy, and Ilona is already feeling relief from carrying them for the majority of a full-term pregnancy. "That last month was very uncomfortable," she shared, "so I am so happy they're here, and I am starting to feel normal again."

Ilona said that all three of her daughters have Hungarian names, as a tribute to her heritage and her family.

As we wrapped up the quiet conversation and the birth story, Ava and Brandon were in their kitchen, making pizza together for a family dinner. "We always wanted a big family," said Ilona as she watched them in the kitchen, with a twin in each arm while she soothed them to sleep. "So we are so happy."

A winter scene of the Gull River, painted by Harvey Walker.

Capturing the Gull

Harvey Walker stands by his easel and painting on the bank of the Gull River. /Submitted

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Bye Trudeau

TRUDEAU HAS RESIGNED as the leader of the Liberal Party of Canada.

This does not come as a surprise after Chrystia Freeland resigned as the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance. With his closest allies dropping like flies, Trudeau must have finally been feeling the heat.

Trudeau telling his family that he was resigning must have been a real mood killer over Christmas.

After Trudeau announced his resignation, Governor General Mary Simon granted his request to prorogue parliament.

If you are like me, you have no idea what that means. Essentially, the House of Commons will be put on hold until March. 24. This move was likely to avoid a vote of non-confidence, which could result in Liberal MPs voting that Trudeau is not fit to run the country.

THOMAS SMITH
Editor

It would not be a good look for the Liberals. With the party eyeing Trudeau like a pack of hungry dogs, his resignation is their only option to stay afloat and try to gain a minority government in the next election.

Amidst the fallout of Trudeau resigning, it seems like Jagmeet Singh is trying to take some control from the Liberals for the NDP. In a statement posted on X, Singh states "Justin Trudeau has let you down, over and over. He let you down on the cost of housing and groceries. He let you down on fixing health care. It doesn't matter who leads the Liberals. They don't deserve another chance" and "if you oppose callous Conservative cuts; if you oppose the rich getting richer while everyone else falls further behind - stand with the NDP this time."

What Singh does not understand is that everyone already knows how badly Trudeau has been running this country. Trudeau himself has heard that loud and clear, which lead to him to announce his resignation. What the NDP should do is show Canadians how their party will do things differently than the Liberals. They are stating the obvious and beating a dead horse, while also attacking the Conservative Party. They need to tell us what they are going to do differently. These moments during the resignation of Trudeau are critical for the other parties and I firmly believe the NDP are shooting themselves in the foot. This lesser of two evils stance is not going to result in votes in the imminent election.

They had their chance and are throwing it away.

The Conservative's Pierre Poilievre was quick to provide their stance against the Liberals. They clearly outline things that the Liberals are handling poorly such as the Carbon tax, debt, spending, and immigration. They say what everyone is thinking. The Liberals are panicking and are attempting to sweep Trudeau under the rug.

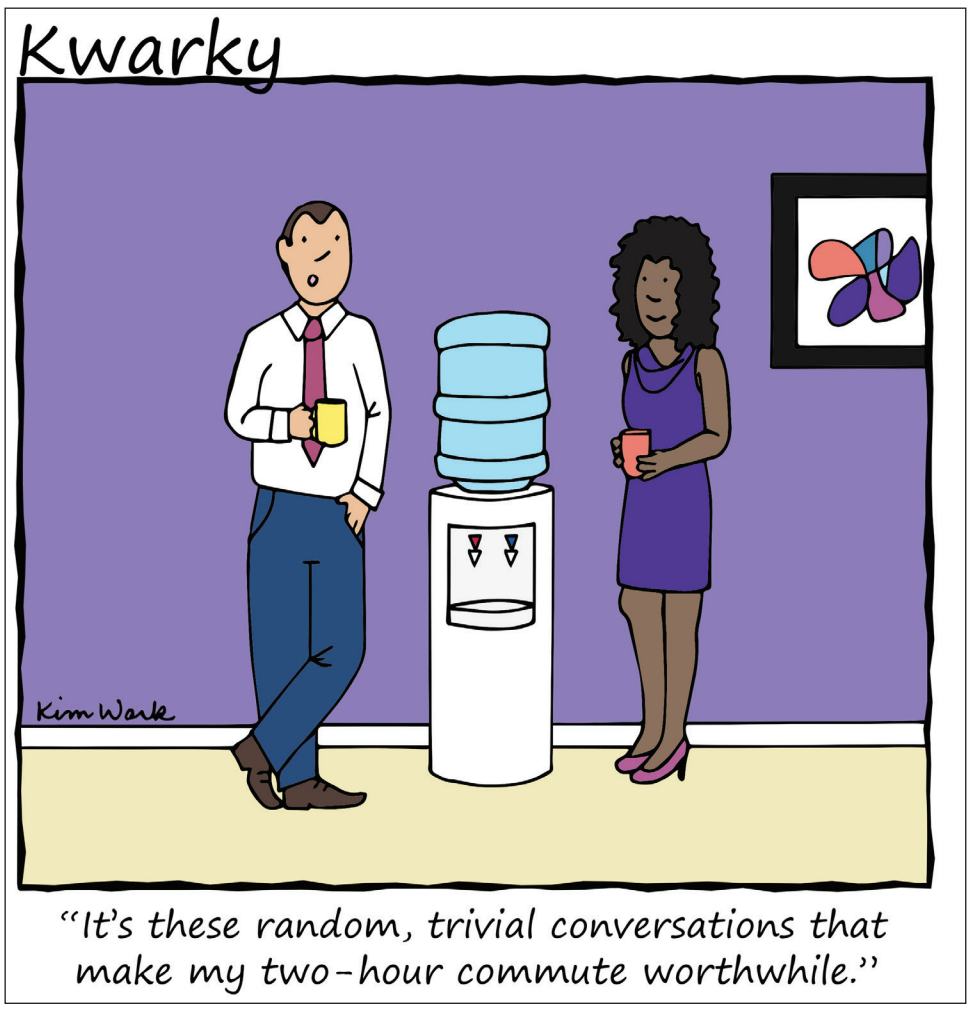
Poilievre provides Canadians two options. Either they continue with the NDP-Liberal coalition (that Jagmeet Singh says they will no longer support) or embrace the Common Sense Conservatives who will axe the tax, build homes, fix the budget, and stop crime in Canada.

Poilievre and the Conservatives are appealing to the everyday Canadian, who has concerns with rising costs and lack of housing. They outline clear issues that Canadians are facing, pointing out the obvious failings of the NDP-Liberal relationship, and outline a clear solution.

What they do not tell you is that Poilievre's government will save money in the form of cutting costs to healthcare. This will directly weaken the capabilities of health services in Haliburton County. CBC will receive cuts, and corporations will not be held accountable for their negative effects on the environment.

Only the richest people will be able to afford a home, if nothing is done by the Conservatives.

Let's just hope they stick to their word and provide real, good change.



Rise of the ice fishing machines

AS I WRITE this, I have just returned from the store with a new automated rod holder and hook setter to add to my ice fishing kit.

This is a tool that's specifically designed to make ice fishing easier. And I'm all for that.

Basically, you place your ice fishing rod in the rod holder and set it so it acts like a spring trap that will set the hook on any fish that touches the bait. It's meant to hook fish at the slightest and most delicate provocation.

STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

Which is to say, this unit does most of the hard stuff. All the angler needs to do is pay attention, take his hands out of his pockets, pick up the rod, and fight the fish – the easy part.

There was a time when I was not a fan of these units because I thought they took a lot of the challenge out of ice fishing. But now, with Artificial Intelligence and robots looming increasingly on the horizon, I figure it's probably best for me to make friends with all the machines I can.

Yes, I understand that the unit I just bought is not sentient or anywhere near being a robot. That's true, but it is still at least as intelligent as most of my fishing buddies. It is probably distantly related to the fishing robots that are sure to come too.

My current strategy is to treat it right so that it might put in a good word for me when the rise of the fishing machines is finally upon us.

I know what you are thinking. There's no middle-ground. You're either for them or against them. Well, they're going to know the best fishing holes ...

They likely have some endearing qualities too. No doubt, they will be better conversationalists and a lot more gullible than the people I tell my fishing stories to – and they might also be able to keep a good fishing spot secret for a while. What's not to like there?

Who knows? If we get along like I hope we will, they might just nod sincerely and back me up when I describe the fish that got away.

With any luck at all, they should also be able to set up a pop-up fishing hut in a strong wind better much than I could and be handy with a fillet knife. Or, at the very least, be willing to drill holes through the ice for a pal. If the designers know anything about anglers at all, they'll also have installed a coffee maker.

This is why I will endeavour to treat my new automated rod holder and hook setter very well indeed. It'll ride in the front seat, and I'll make sure I maintain it so that, when the rise of the fishing machines does indeed arrive, it will consider letting them know that I'm a keeper – and it might even forgive me for losing about half of the fish it hooked.

I know this sounds crazy. I'll even concede the odds are very good that none of this will ever come to pass. No matter. I still happen to think it's the prudent thing to do. Especially since my fish finder and I have never really gotten along…

In Other Words

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Five technology resolutions

IT'S A NEW year, which means New Year's resolutions are on the minds of many. Whether or not you enjoy making New Year's resolutions, here is some sound advice to make your technology experience better that you can use at any time of year.

Start using a password manager

At its simplest, a password manager is software that stores your passwords, log-ins, and other sensitive information securely behind a single master password. The idea is that you only need to remember that master password, and then you can look up all your unique and complex passwords (which some services will even generate automatically) for the plethora of websites and online services that you need to access.

ERIN KERNOHAN-BERNING

Humans and Technology

Most password managers are online in the cloud, so you can access your passwords from anywhere. Additionally, many come with browser plugins that autofill login information, as well as generate two-factor authentication codes. These take a little bit of effort to setup, but once they are up and running you never have to worry about losing that sticky note under the keyboard ever again.

Make good passwords

Speaking of strong passwords, make this the year that you create good strong passwords. One way of creating a strong password that is also easy to remember is to take a sentence that means something to you, use the first letter of each word, add a number, and add a special character. For instance, I could take the first line of George Orwell's 1984 and have a strong password that weighs in at 16 characters: IwabcdiAatcws13$

Another method you can use is to pick four objects in your vicinity and use that as a password. While it sounds simple, it takes a long time to for someone else to guess. For instance, right now based on what I can see around me a password might be LampPaintingComputerStapler. Since most services also require at least one number and special character, I might modify that to Lamp1Painting#Computer$Stapler3. Both methods are recommended by GetCyberSafe.ca.

Turn on 2-Factor Authentication wherever it is offered

Two-Factor Authentication (2FA) is when in addition to your username and password another piece of information proving you are you is required for you to login to a particular online service. Often, a six digit code is sent to your email, mobile device, or authenticator app to complete the login. This works on the principle that even if a bad guy has your login information, they are less likely to also have access to your email or phone. 2FA isn't infallible, but it does provide an extra layer of security that all but the most determined scammers will not bother trying to thwart.

Not all 2FA is created equal. The most robust 2FA uses an authenticator app to generate codes and prompt for additional login information. Other forms of 2FA such as emailed codes and text messages aren't as secure but are better than nothing.

Pause before you share

The proliferation of AI generated content and deep fakes mixed with a long tradition of the usual charlatanism means it is more important than ever to examine the information you are sharing with a skeptical eye. Does what you're about to hit share on make you feel scared or upset or angry? Does it seem like it must be too good, strange, or unbelievable to be true? Is it trying to get you to buy something? If so, then it deserves a second look before sharing. Verify the information you share using reliable and reputable resources, and when in doubt just don't share at all.

Plan your technology purchases to reduce waste and save money

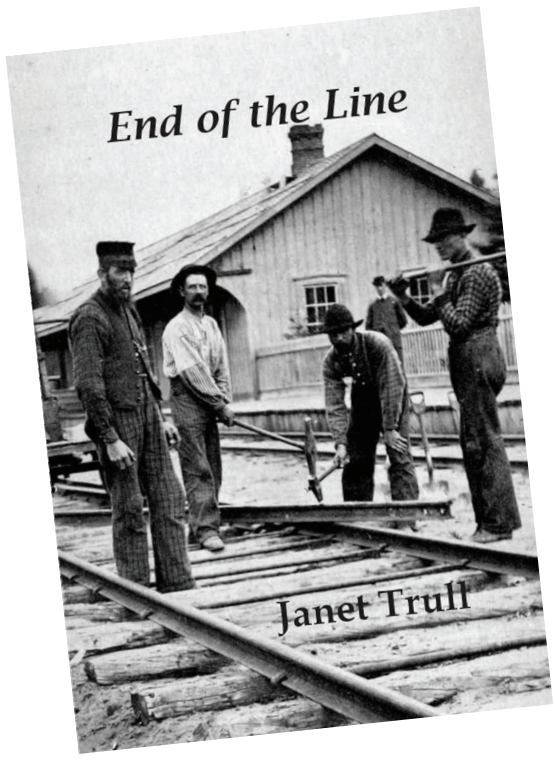
E-waste continues to be a growing problem in Canada and around the world. International groups such as the United Nations and World Health Organization dedicate some of their work to research and bring awareness to both the human and environmental costs of e-waste. You can help reduce your impact by ensuring that you plan technology purchases carefully.

Make sure what you're buying is suitable for what you need so that you avoid overspending on something you don't need, but don't underspend and miss out on something you do need. Check what options the manufacturer has for recycling and buying back older equipment and assess how reparable the item is that you're purchasing. Try to make a plan for what you will do with your old devices, such as passing them along to friends and family or selling them if they are still reasonably up to date.

Minden Memories

A photo of the logging operation at Brady Lake. Although mechanization improved efficiency in the logging industry, the rugged terrain still required traditional skidding techniques to move the logs. As shown in the photo, log driving remained a common practice well into the mid-19th century. /Photo courtesy of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

HCPL's Book of the Week



Local author Janet Trull takes readers back to the late 1800s, exploring life for early settlers in the Highlands as new immigrants arrive on the first trains. The story follows Ona, a local entrepreneur with Scottish and Ojibwe roots, who runs a booming business for loggers and railway workers. When a corrupt politician is murdered, suspicion swirls, and nearly everyone in town has a motive. Through a blend of fictional intrigue and nods to real local history, Trull spins a suspenseful 'whodunit' that captures the evolving dynamics of this small, bustling community.

End of the Line by Janet Trull is available to borrow as a book or book club set from the Haliburton County Public Library.

January 2024 Year in Review

Coneybeare's Butcher Shop Five Generations of Quality Cuts

Coneybeare's Butcher Shop has been a family-run business since the 1940s, passing through four generations of the Coneybeare family. Now operated by siblings Mckay and Lily Coneybeare, the shop balances tradition with modernization, introducing new products, renovating the space, and expanding its online presence. Despite changes, the family remains committed to quality craftsmanship and the community that has supported them, continuing a nearly century-long legacy.

From left, McKay, Chris and Lily Coneybeare stand smiling at their store's counter. /FILE

MH increases rental fee waiver amount

Minden Hills increased the amount of rental fees that can be waived to save community groups money. The waiver was raised from $750 to $2,000. Policy was changed to allow the Director of Community Services to waive fees easily and streamline the process.

Work progresses on recreation centre

Work to renovate the Dorset Community Centre was moving forward. After finding mould in the centre, it was closed. The building was completely renovated with full heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system installed.

Minden takes positive message from municipalities gathering

Mayor Bob Carter attended the Rural Ontario Municipal Association's annual conference and reported back by saying that there needs to be a better way of transferring land already owned by the people of Ontario to a municipality. Carter and his delegation spoke to Infrastructure Minister Kinga Surma about funding for new programming. It was said that Infrastructure Ontario would be rolling out new programming that will cater to housing and water-related projects. This was in connection to the county's need to attract more doctors.

Burlington Cougar's 4th goal, the last of the game, resulting in the Huskies winning 4-1. /FILE

Brodie Mason shares a smile with bowling convenor Janice Diamond at Fast Lane Bowling in Minden during their annual Red Wolves versus Haliburton County Huskies game on Jan. 24 in Minden. /FILE

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February 2024 Year in Review

A sizeable crowd gathered to watch the hilarious Lumber Jack show at the Dorset Snowball last February. /FILE

An excited player gets a question right at a trivia night at EAT Cheeserie and Cocktails /FILE

Breaking legs, breaking hearts in Ctrl-ART-Del's Valentine's Caberet Show

Ctrl-Art-Del's Amy Leis and Tim Nicholson shared their upcoming *One Night Only: A Valentine's Cabaret* held on Feb. 16. The show featured one-act plays including *She Came in Through the Bathroom Window*, *Slow Songs Make Me Puke*, *The Barely Wives Club*, *La Mouche*, and *F*cking Cupcakes*. Ctrl-ART-Del was formed in 2022 and had their company's debut with *Cherubs* in 2023.

MH looks into reduced household garbage bag limits

Minden Hills looked into reducing residents' garbage bag limits. On Feb. 8, Council discussed changes to landfill site user identification cards and cottage kits. And, with the changes, it was suggested bag limits be reduced to better encourage recycling. "Right now residents can bring three bags of garbage, but it's not easily tracked by our attendants because there is no card to mark off how many residents have brought in," said Chelsea Cosh, the township's waste facilities manager. Carter requested a report and a recommendation on the issue, whereas Counc. Ivan Ingram suggested a one year trial period. "It's not that big a deal for one year, I don't think, really," said Ingram.

"If you're not in Dorset, you're not anywhere!"

"If you're not in Dorset, you're not anywhere!" shouts the Town Crier, opening this year's Dorset Snowball Winter Carnival. Crowds of family and carnival flocked to the Dorset Snowball this past February. Steve Morrin, 71, says that he has been attending the Snowball for 16 years to show off his collection of skulls and other natural specimens. Morrin said that the crowds in 2023 were unbelievable, but the crowd in 2024 still had an impressive turnout.

Godfathers reopens in Minden

After a long wait, Godfatherews has finally opened again. "It took so long because we could not find staff," explains Sydney Murphy, Office Admin and Corporate Trainer from Godfathers. "There's been a big staffing issue with COVID-19, this store is busy so you can't run it with only four employees. Here, it is so busy you need a lot of staff." During the summer months, the Minden Godfathers location becomes their busiest store.

A driver waves during his race at the Minden Ice Races hosted by the Minden Kin Club on Saturday, Jan. 3 at the Minden Fairgrounds. /FILE

Lawrence and Maria Van Lieshout celebrated their 66th anniversary this past April. /FILE

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March 2024 Year in Review

Local tattoo artists bring apprentice under their wings

Gina Horswood became the first apprentice operating out of Bronwin Ironside and Samina Khokhar's custom electric tattoo studio that they opened in 2022. "When you finish a tattoo and they are just so blown away and they have so much gratitude and everybody cries," said Khokhar. They shared their experiences as female artists in a male-dominated industry, their passion for their flash tattoo designs, and their efforts in making their custom electric tattoo studio a welcoming space. "Anything that is racist, bigoted, homophobic or of that nature is not gonna fly and it's not gonna happen at our shop," said Ironside.

U-Links celebrates 25 years with logo design contest

U-Links geared up to celebrate the centre's 25th anniversary with a logo design contest. "The Logo should clearly indicate U-Links 25th Anniversary but other than that designers are free to integrate into the logo themes that address learning, education, students, local issues and Haliburton County." A brief summary of the history of U-Links was provided, as well as details on their continuing research throughout the county.

Minden Ice Races 2024 Recap

"Every club that organized this year lost money," said Tom Prentice."It was down by two weekends. We got four of the six weekends." "The number of drivers this year was down." Many drivers did not get their cars ready due to the unpredictability with the weather. The warm weather forced drivers to change their tires, another reason for low turnout.

Two-year CCAA winning streak for Dobson and team

Jacob Dobson lead Humber College's men's curling team to victory. For the second year in a row, the team became gold medalists of the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association national curling championship. "Overall, the tournament was great. Our only loss was to Mohawk in another game that came down to the last shot," said Dobson.

Skaters perform to *Old Time Rock and Roll* by Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band at the Jump, Spin, Glide Gala. /FILE

From left to right: Joleen Thomas, Kelly Winder, Katie Cox, and Cheryl Bathe take an icy plunge at Horseshoe Lake. /FILE

Andrew von Zuben and son Auren stand proudly in their goat's pen. /FILE

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Ending the year with a bang

Sandy Lane Resort, under new ownership, held a New Year's Eve bash for the books on Halls Lake. /Photo by Tofflemire Photography

CANOE 100.9 FM

Canoe FM Begins On-Air Testing on 97.1 FM in Minden!

Canoe FM is excited to announce that **Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED)** has authorized us to begin on-air testing of the permanent transmitting facilities at our repeater station, **CKHA-FM-1**, broadcasting on **97.1 FM** out of **Minden, Ontario.**

Testing will begin on **December 17, 2024**, and will conclude no later than **January 28, 2025**.

We value your feedback during this testing period. If you have any ***comments or concerns***, please reach out to us by:
Email: manager@canoefm.com
Phone: 705-457-1009

After the testing has been approved 97.1 Minden & 100.9 Haliburton will be permanent frequencies in our County. Thank you for your support as we improve Canoe FM's reach to serve more of our amazing community!

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Chris Parish celebrated for 30 years of paramedic service

by THOMAS SMITH
Editor

Chris Parish stands with MPP Laurie Scott at the recognition ceremony for exemplary paramedic service held at Queen's Park on Nov. 20, 2024. /Submitted

Born and raised in Toronto, Chris Parish spent his childhood and teenage summers in Haliburton County. Parish first became inspired to join the paramedic service after watching the television show *Emergency!*.

Parish began his pursuit of paramedicine at Centennial College in Toronto. Whilst pursuing his education, Parish began to work part-time with the Haliburton County Paramedic Services. This was at a time when you did not need a full certification as a paramedic to work in rural communities in Ontario. After his graduation in October of 1991, Parish was offered full-time employment with the Haliburton Paramedic Services.

Parish has seen a dramatic change in the paramedic position from when he first started. When he began, paramedics did first aid and rushed patients to hospitals as fast as they could. Nowadays, Parish says that paramedics are on the level of true clinicians. They are trained in ways to stabilize patients and understand that getting to the hospital safely is sometimes better than quickly. Minden's paramedic base had one truck and Haliburton had one truck and one vehicle that operated during the daytime. Now, there are three bases throughout the county. Minden's base alone has three trucks that operate 24/7.

Recently, Parish has pursued involvement with the Community Paramedic Program. This program is a community-based proactive care approach with paramedics utilizing their education and expertise to support community members at home. The intention of this program is to reduce the number of 911 calls and hospital admissions. The intent of the program is also to provide preventative care to people before having to live in long-term care facilities.

Despite the stress, long hours, and being witness to some horrible things, Parish says that the lovely people in the Haliburton County community, as well as his teammates have let him continue.

As a paramedic, Parish has had to balance his demanding schedule with his family. Parish says that he has had to work many holidays, but with the long shifts, you also get consistent days off. Fortunately, Parish says that this consistency allowed him to see his kids off to school and not need after school care.

The key to being a paramedic for 30 years? Parish says that besides the obvious technical skills in paramedicine, interpersonal skills are vital as a paramedic. The ability to arrive at a scene, get in their door, access people, provide emergency care is needed to do the job effectively and safely.

In comparison to working in a larger city like Toronto, Parish says that paramedics in Haliburton County face unique challenges, such as calls on snowmobile trails, ATVing accidents, and boating incidents. When a large accident happens in Toronto, they can send numerous ambulances and shut down the highway. In Haliburton County, they do not have the same number of resources available. With limited resources, Parish says that it has greatly enhanced his ability to make decisions on-the-fly and has increased his resourcefulness.

In November of this year, 73 paramedics from across Ontario were honoured at Queen's Park in Toronto for their years of dedication and services in paramedicine.

"It was kind of special," described Parish. With thirty years of service, received his first bar to the Exemplary Service Medal. The awards were presented by Michael Tibolla, the associate minister of health and addictions. MPP Laurie Scott was in attendance.

> "When I started, PTSD was not a thing. It wasn't talked about
>
> — CHRIS PARISH, HALIBURTON COUNTY PARAMEDIC SERVICES

The recognition of post-traumatic stress disorder and the reduction of mental health stigmas has been vital in saving the lives of paramedics.

"When I started out, PTSD was not a thing," said Parish. "It wasn't talked about."

Paramedics now have access to peer support services such as PeerOnCall. Apps like PeerOnCall allow paramedics to have access to resources and tips on managing your mental health, and to have access to trained peer supporters. It also allows teammates to notify the trained peer support when they think someone needs to be reached out to.

"It's a smaller county where everybody knows us," said Parish. "You're not a number on the list."

In his spare time, Parish enjoys renovating his home, going downhill skiing, and boating on the lake.

While Parish does not foresee receiving his second bar for 40 years, he still loves his job and serving the communities in Haliburton County.

"I have enjoyed doing it," said Parish. "Doing it in this community makes it more enjoyable."

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Tips To Stay Linked In and Safe Online
Aging Together as Community and The County of Haliburton
Where: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 636, 12847 Hwy 35, Minden
When: Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2 to 5 p.m.
Register by January 13, by email at atachhevents@gmail.com or call Connie Wood at 705-457-7215.You can also attend from your home via Zoom. The Legion will serve their famous fish and chips after the guests speak.

Understanding your Teen: How to give support through challenging times
When: Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 7 p.m.
Where: Schofield Room, Haliburton Legion, 719 Mountain St., Haliburton
A discussion with Rachelle Stephens and Shannon Norris, who are child, youth and family therapists with Point in Time, who will lead a conversation focused on ideas of good practice, guidance and available resources for parents. A continuing series on "Making our Communities Better Places", and will be opened with music by the Porter Brothers. Open to all, no admission charge, light refreshments provided.

Recurring events

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly
When: Monday mornings 9:30 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion Branch 129, upper level
Admission: Yearly membership of $59
A non-profit/commercial network of weight-loss support groups, offers programs for healthy living and weight management.

Bridge for Seniors
When: Mondays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Schofield Room
All welcome

Haliburton Legion Walking Group
When: Mondays at 9 to 10 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
A safe walking environment. Lead by an Occupational therapist.

Free Balanced Fitness and Active Social Senior Classes
When: Every second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All seniors are welcome. Group led by Registered Recreation Therapist

Bid Euchre
When: Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All welcome!

Seniors Chair Exercises
When: Thursdays at 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church, 617 Mountain Street
Safe and gentle exercises for seniors to help with balance, strength and flexibility. Free to join.

Morton family helps provide shelter, services to women and children

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Times Staff

Services for women and children in Haliburton County got a familiar financial boost.

The Morton Family Foundation has given $50,000 over the last four years to the YWCA Peterborough Haliburton.

The foundation recently stretched its charitable support for women and children's services to five years straight. The YWCA heralded Patricia and David Morton as consistently generous donors for the last 12 years, having given $50,000 each year since 2020.

Patricia, a professor who taught history and women's studies for 26 years at Trent University, said their commitment to the YWCA stems from the epidemic of gender-based abuse and violence against women throughout Canada.

"About 44 per cent of Canadian women, or 6.2 million people, have reported experiencing psychological or physical abuse in an intimate relationship," she said. "Gender-based violence has severe ramifications on the health of the victims, including traumatic brain injuries that can result in lasting mental health challenges and even death."

The violence has become a trend that should concern everybody. In a period of 104 weeks recently, 124 women in Ontario were murdered by somebody they loved, said Kim Dolan, executive director at the Haliburton Peterborough YWCA.

Such violence has lasting traumatic impacts on children.

"David and I feel very fortunate to be able to contribute again to YWCA Peterborough Haliburton's vital support services and safe shelters for the many women who are endangered by gender-based abuse and too often deadly violence," Patricia Morton said.

Close to 200 women in Canada were killed by femicide in 2024, and she said more than 60 of those cases were in Ontario.

Patricia said true numbers are even higher as many instances of violence and abuse are never reported and statistics only include those cases ruled as femicide by authorities.

"Clearly femicide must be stopped, and all levels of government must enact legislation that provides protection, safety, support, and affordable housing for the survivors of gender-based abuse and violence," she said.

According to Statistics Canada, there are 5,580 women in Haliburton County between the ages of 15 and 64. Of those, about 2,870 women are older than 65.

"And we know that 30 per cent of women over the age of 15 experience gender-based violence," Dolan recently told Haliburton County council.

"It happens to our girls, our friends, our mothers, our aunties and we've worked with many women who are 70 and older. In this county we can conservatively estimate that over 2,500 women have or are experiencing violence."

The Mortons have directed their support to the YWCA's programs in the county that support rural women experiencing violence and abuse with vital services including safety planning, counselling, and legal assistance.

"Isolated rural women are especially vulnerable to intimate partner abuse and violence, and to femicide," Patricia Morton said.

"The YWCA's services give these women hope that they and their children can have much better lives. David and I greatly hope to encourage others to give as much as possible to the YWCA, because it is the wellbeing and the lives of abused women that are at stake."

> "The Morton Family Foundation has reached a milestone in their tradition of generosity, after five years of leadership giving."
>
> — HALIBURTON PETERBOROUGH YWCA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KIM DOLAN

Access to safe and reliable services in rural communities is an ongoing problem. The YWCA Women's Centre in Haliburton County offers the resources women need in order to escape gender-based violence and find safer ways to move forward with their life.

The centre provides access to transition supports such as safe transportation, individual counselling, a family law lawyer, court support and guidance.

The YWCA's Haliburton Emergency Rural SafeSpace (HERS) provides safe and supportive temporary accommodations for women with and without children fleeing abuse in the county.

Patricia Morton said HERS is designed to be available on an as-needed basis and offers space for two families at a time so women can move away from the abusive situation in their home without leaving their support systems, jobs and schools, families and friends behind.

Rural women in Haliburton County have reported far more serious and complex abuse since 2020.

As many other women's organizations across the province, the YWCA faces heightened demand and increasing costs and would not be able to continue operating these programs without the generous community support.

"The Morton Family Foundation has reached a milestone in their tradition of generosity, after five years of leadership giving," Dolan said.

"I am truly grateful every day for Patricia and David's dedication to supporting so many worthwhile community initiatives."

Dolan thanked the family and its foundation on behalf of the county's women and children. The donations have provided them the resources and support they need to feel safe again.

David Morton said he continues to be appalled at the level of violence that women suffer from men who take out their anger and frustrations with physical and emotional violence.

"I believe it is so important to support YWCA Peterborough Haliburton in their effort to protect women who are in very vulnerable situations," he said. "I urge others to support the YWCA in this effort."

Community members who wish to donate or find ways of supporting YWCA services are encouraged to visit ywcapeterborough.org or contact the YWCA directly at 705-743-3526.

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Snowflake Meadows hosts fundraising dinner

Snowflake Meadows Rescue is hosting a roast beef dinner at Mulligans Pub and Patio on Jan. 17. There will be two seatings available, one at 4 p.m. and the second at 6 p.m. There is a minimum donation of $45 per plate. For tickets, call Kristyn at Snowflake Meadows at 289-338-3429.

Submitted

Dorset snowball seeks volunteers

The Dorset Snowball Winter Carnival is one of the Township of Algonquin Highlands' biggest events of the year and is fast-approaching in February. If you might be able to assist with this year's festival, which will take place on Family Day weekend. A meeting for volunteers is on Thursday, Jan. 9, at the Dorset Recreation Centre at 6 p.m. Please makes plans to attend if you're interested in learning how you might help out.

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ATAC hosts technology seminar

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Editor

On Wednesday, Jan. 15, Aging Together as Community (ATAC) will be hosting "Tips to Stay Linked In and Safe Online". This presentation is funded by the Senior Community Grant Program and is entirely free to attend.

For this presentation, ATAC will be hosting four experts from the surrounding areas to provide tips, tricks, and strategies to keep residents safe and interconnected.

The first speaker is Constable Joe Imbeau who will discuss safety measures when navigating the internet and using mobile technology.

Christine Keenan, Project Coordinator with the Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Ontario Health Team will be presenting with Georgina Shank, ERS and Social Rec Coordinator for Haliburton Highlands Health Services. Programs within the Haliburton County community will be discussed as well as tips for healthy living. Programs that are available for people aged 65 and up will also be discussed.

Graeme Soule, from the Haliburton County Public Library will be discussing online resources with the library and how to access their resources.

Several tablets, donated by the Wellness Connection will be available to use during the session.

Connie Wood, event coordinator for ATAC says that there has been increasing demand for learning about internet safety and navigating the uses of technology. Last year, ATAC submitted a survey to its members, allowing people to submit ideas for talks and learning sessions to better the community. With around 35 per cent of Haliburton County being aged 65 and older, ATAC has seen huge success with their public education program.

"I hope this educational session helps increase people's confidence and increase their competency as it's a good way to stay connected," says Wood.

Wood hopes that this discussion will increase the openness to using technology and utilizing applications such as FaceTime and Zoom to stay connected with others.

Scams, safety with purchasing things online, and proper security techniques will be discussed throughout the event.

ATAC welcomes all to join and attend the event. Sharing knowledge is encouraged and vital towards your health and fostering a sense of community.

"Tips to Stay Linked In and Safe Online" will be taking place on Wednesday, Jan. 5 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion in Minden. The Legion will be serving their famous fish and chips to guests at no cost.

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				4				6
3						8	7	9
							4	
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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 17

Bill Godfrey honours service of his father

by THOMAS SMITH
Editor

Bill Godfrey stands by a display of his father's medals, patches, and pins. A flag honouring William Godfrey, a veteran of both World Wars hangs beneath. /THOMAS SMITH Staff

A photo of William Godfrey, circa WW2.

For the past twenty 20 years, Bill Godfrey has been clearing the snow in the areas around Wilberforce and Irondale. Perhaps you have seen him out and about in the community, or have been lucky enough to spend an afternoon chatting with him. At 84, Godfrey has no plans to slow down.

While growing up, Bill Godfrey's father never talked to him about his military service. Having served in both World War I and World War II, his service affected him greatly. While his father would share very little, he had a scar on his arm and leg from bullet wounds. With Bill Godfrey being born in 1941, his first memories of his father were of a man after he had returned from war.

Bill Godfrey's father, William Godfrey enlisted in the army in Woodville, Ontario on Feb. 24, 1916. Godfrey was 15 years old when he managed to enlist with the 109th Battalion, lying about his date of birth.

The 109th Battalion was composed of volunteers from Victoria and Haliburton County, with headquarters located in Lindsay prior to deportation. Enlisting was considered a necessity by Godfrey, with a lack of jobs during the wars. All of the money Godfrey earned while serving was sent home to his mother, and later, his wife, to support his family.

On Oct. 6, Godfrey joined the 20th Battalion. According to Godfrey's service record, he received a gunshot wound to his left hand on May 8, 1917. Godfrey returned to the 20th Battalion on March 29, 1918 after recuperating at the Canadian Convalescent Depot.

On June 3, 1918 he received a gunshot wound to his right leg. While admitted to the hospital, Godfrey let it slip that his date of birth was Aug. 28, 1901. While it is unclear if he was reprimanded, Godfrey's casualty form details this discrepancy in age with large red letters saying 'minor' at the top with instructions saying not to send him overseas until he reached the age of 19. Despite this note by officials, Godfrey's records were not changed officially. Fortunately, Godfrey did not return to combat and was ordered to return to Canada on Dec. 2, 1918. He was officially discharged in Toronto on March 3, 1919.

In World War II, Godfrey enlisted once again, serving with the Lorne Scots No. 2 District Depot. While I have not been able to find much info regarding his service, he was discharged on Feb. 18, 1944.

Godfrey settled with his family in Omemee where they farmed and raised horses. One of Bill Godfrey's fondest memories of his father is the time he spent ice fishing on Simcoe Lake.

While visiting Bill's Wife Vera's family, the couple noticed a rundown house with trees growing through it near Conteau Lake. They purchased the house for $2,700 in 1967. His father came to the house to help them renovate and the family held their first Christmas in the house that year.

Last year, Godfrey offered his time, supplies, and skills to repair and repaint the signposts for veterans in Irondale.

After working in the body shop for many years, Godfrey figured that he would use his experience to refinish and paint the metal signs honouring veterans in Irondale. Godfrey approached Carol Simmons about the rusty signs, who gladly accepted that Godfrey could take them home and refinish them.

Using his own garage and buying his own paint and materials, Godfrey removed rust, painted the signs, and created a base for the signs to be displayed.

Godfrey says that he wanted to fix the signs up to honour the service of not only his father, but all of those that have served and protected our country.

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Human Resources Coordinator
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1S0
Email: dmugfordguay@algonquinhighlands.ca

Township of Algonquin Highlands

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Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a more detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than January 23, 2025, at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

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Minden Times

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8	2	7	3	4	9	5	1	6
3	4	1	6	5	2	8	7	9
7	6	3	9	8	5	2	4	1
1	5	2	4	7	3	9	6	8
9	8	4	2	6	1	7	5	3
4	1	9	5	3	8	6	2	7
2	7	6	1	9	4	3	8	5
5	3	8	7	2	6	1	9	4

650 OBITUARIES

Susan "Sue" Scheffee (nee Maxwell)

Resident of Haliburton

At her residence on Thursday evening, January 2, 2025, in her 69th year. Beloved wife and best friend of the late Gordon Scheffee. Loving mother of Andrew, Jessica, and Elisa. Loving sister of Malcolm, Lois, Bonnie, Cheryl, Diane, and Cathy. She is fondly remembered by her many grandchildren Jaylah, Camryn, Noah, Alexa, Luca, Jaxon, and Hudson. Predeceased by her parents Aubrey & Hazel Maxwell. Sue is also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Sue was a Registered Practical Nurse in the Community for many years. She enjoyed fishing, boating, snowmobiling, music, and most of all, her grandchildren.

Visitation & Funeral Service

Friends are invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Saturday afternoon, January 11, 2025, for a Funeral Service in the Chapel at 1 o'clock. (Visitation one prior). Reception to follow at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #129. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

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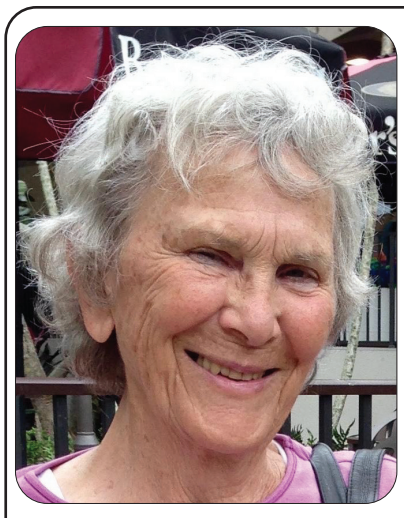

Jane "Jenny" Thomas (nee Campbell)

Jane Anne (Jenny) Thomas (nee Campbell) was born August 17, 1932 in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, the sixth of seven children. She grew up in the Great Depression and the Second World War, events that shaped her. Jenny was an athlete, with promise as a swimmer and a dancer. She excelled academically, although it wasn't until she had raised her family that she completed degrees in geography and education, becoming a primary school teacher at the age of 50.

Jenny married the love of her life, Richard Thomas, on April 11, 1953, when she was 20 years old. They remained married 53 years, until his death in 2006, and had four children: Pan (Mitchell), Jeremy (Margaret), Sarah and Nell (Bob), and five grandchildren: Miranda, Eli, Bradley, Rohan, Nicky.

Jenny was a passionate woman, with many interests and loves. She was devoted to her family and was most fulfilled as a mother, grandmother, sister and aunt. She loved growing her garden to feed her family, cultivating flowers, cooking, baking, sewing, knitting, singing and reading; Jenny was vastly well-read and favoured Shakespeare and works of philosophy in her later years. Jenny was known and admired by many for her generosity, lively wit, and outspoken commitment to her humanistic values.

Jenny was a remarkable survivor: she recovered from typhoid fever as a child, beat cancer twice, survived Covid twice, and fought her way back from three serious strokes. Impressively, she stayed in the farmhouse she and Richard built in Burks Falls after his death, and even after her first stroke in 2010. At 85, she moved to Minden, Ontario, close to her youngest daughter, Nell, for the last seven years of her life. Jenny suffered a final stroke on November 4, and died peacefully on December 30 at home. In her last days, she enjoyed precious moments with her children and grandchildren. Jenny - as mom, gramma, aunt and friend - will be missed and remembered with great love and affection.

We profusely thank all the people who cared for Jenny during her final months - the WONDERFUL staff at HHHS, the Gardens of Haliburton, Dr. Norm Bottum, Jerry Griffin, Kathy Mclaughlin, Canon Joan Cavanaugh, Rhonda Kreller, Michelle Miscio, and Beth Archibald.

Private Family Arrangements

The family is planning a ceremony at the Richard Thomas Memorial Park in Burks Falls this summer. She would be honoured and grateful if donations were made to her favourite charity, Doctors Without Borders, in lieu of flowers. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

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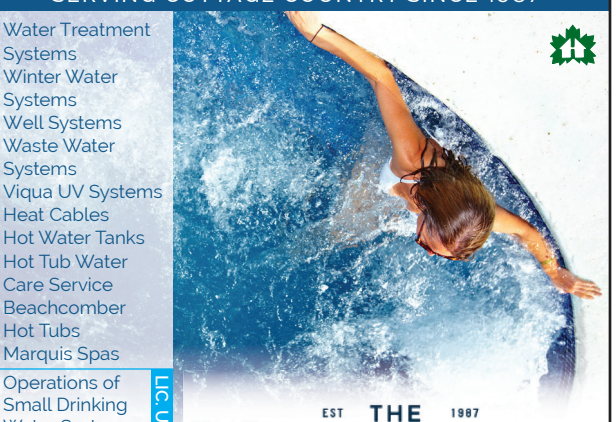

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The Times

Minden

Wednesday, January 18, 1984

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Council petitions county over bridge

Anson, Hindon and Minden Council passed a resolution at their January 11 meeting requesting that the County Council review it's decision to maintain and upgrade the present Ingoldsby bridge.

The municipal council conducted a study by a consultant who recommended a new bridge in lieu of repairing the existing structure. The municipal council also points out that money has been spent to acquire the necessary extra property, that plans have been drawn up for a new bridge and that the majority of taxpayers in Ingoldsby have indicated that they want a new bridge.

It was also pointed out that costs have escalated since the first estimate of $400,000.00 and will continue to escalate.

The resolution asks that the County Council submit a report to the municipal council and the residents of Ingoldsby explaining why the County Roads Committee reversed their decision to rebuild.

County council is expected to deal with the matter at today's (January 18) meeting.

Head Lake project could benefit county

A major resort development could be in the offing for Haliburton County according to information made public at a recent *meeting of the Dysart* municipal council.

It was revealed at the meeting that Sherwood Developments Ltd., has plans to create a 30 dwelling time sharing development on property adjacent to Head Lake in Haliburton Village. The property in question is part of the municipality owned Glebe Park, in which the Haliburton Highlands Museum is located.

Sherwood Developments had proposed a similar development for Spruce Lake near Haliburton Village over a year ago. That project has apparently been shelved in favour of the Head Lake development.

Under the proposed scheme, individuals would be able to purchase a guaranteed time period each year at one of the 30 log structures to be erected on the site.

According to Dysart Reeve Murray Fearrey, the development could prove to be a major boon to the *county. "The initial cost* estimated at $7,500,000," Fearrey commented, "in construction costs and material. As well the company has planned to spend over two million dollars in promoting the project. Each time they promote the development they will be promoting the Haliburton Highlands."

Construction costs estimated at $7,500,000...

The reeve noted there would be spin-off effects once the development is complete, as visitors to the site will be purchasing goods and services from local merchants.

Fearrey said the offer to sell the municipality owned park land to make way for the development has been accepted on a tentative basis. He said there were still various restrictions and agreements to be worked out between the developer and the municipality.

The municipality has had the land in question appraised and a value of about $200,000 has been set for the 30 acres.

According to initial agreements, the developer would be responsible for the installation of roads, and sewers and would allow continued access to the cross-country and snowmobile trails which cross the property.

The council is expected to meet with the developer later this month to iron out the details of the land sale and project. If the project receives the green light, it is expected that promotion and construction could begin by late spring or early summer.

Ho hum, all this attention can to be a bit much after a while, but I guess that's the price of fame. Yes, I was the first baby born in Haliburton County in 1984. As for the details, well, my name is Christopher Butler; I was born in the Red Cross Hospital in Haliburton on January 8 at 11:51 p.m. and I weighed in at 6lbs 10 oz. This is my mother Lori; my Dad's name is Wayne and I have a sister whose name is Dawnita. I'm the grandson of Willard Butler of Richmond Hill, Valerie Nagels of London and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hill of Huntsville. Oh yes, I live near Minden and now I think, if you don't mind, I'll take a nap.

Stanhope noise by-law approved

The Township of Stanhope held their first meeting of the new year on Wednesday, January 11. The council members dealt with a wide range of issues mainly of a financial nature as they prepared for 1984.

By-law Enforcement Officer James Moore opened the meeting by informing council that the Chief Justice of Ontario had approved the noise by-law for the township. The new by-law, which was passed under the authority of the Municipal Act, calls for a fine of $53 to be paid to the municipality. This fine can be levied after the by-law enforcement officer receives a complaint about excessive noise. It can be paid through an out of court settlement.

Continuing his report to council Mr. Moore gave notification of a complaint he had received concerning a shore line encroachment. The complaint by a cottager on Kushog Lake referred to a rock filled wooden crib that had been constructed by a neighbour on the road allowance in front of the cottager's property.

Council instructed Mr. Moore to write a letter to the neighbour requesting that the structure be removed since it had not been approved by the complainant or the municipality.

Following the report by Mr. Moore township clerk Gerald Bain read a letter from Mayor J. S. Jakes from the township of Georgian Bay regarding long term use of trailers situated on campgrounds. The letter, which was sent to all municipalities in the province, asked for council's support in having the law changed.

Mayor Jakes pointed out that under present legislation seasonal or long term residents of trailers that are located on campsites make use of services such as hydro, weater and sewage but are not assessed taxes.

The mayor suggested that long term residents of trailers should be assessed for taxes rather than paying a licence fee which is the present procedure under the present legislation.

Council will send a letter to the mayor expressing their support for a change in provincial legislation.

Borrowing

In further business council passed the municipal borrowing by-law which allows the municipality to borrow up to 70% of the needed revenue for the year. This will allow the municipality to borrow an amount not to exceed $400,000 from time to time throughout 1984.

Council also passed a by-law authorizing the township to charge a rate of 15% per annum of 1 1/2% per month interest on overdue taxes.

Committee reorganization

During a report from the recreation committee, council passed a resolution to amalgamate the Recrea-

(more on page 2)

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